

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00
PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8609
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE BE IMMEDIATE
EUCOM VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE

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SECDEF FOR ASD/PA:ROSS; USIA FOR IEU; BONN FOR KLIEFORTH;
SHAPE FOR COL. ZURAWSKI; EUCOM FOR CAPTW GARROW

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON, MILI, NATO, SOPN
SUBJECT: EXPECTED GERMAN PRESS REPORT ON 120 GUN
COMPETITION

REF: CLAUSSSEN-ASD/PA:ROSS TELECON OF JANUARY 11.

1. BRUSSELS SPRINGER NEWS SERVICE CORRESPONDENT CAY
BROCKDORF HAS INFORMED MISSION PAO THAT HE FILED A STORY
TODAY TO HIS HAMBURG HEADQUARTERS REPORTING THAT THE FRG'S
120 MM SMOOTH BORE TANK CANNON HAS EMERGED AS THE "CLEAR
WINNER" (EINDEUTIGER SIEGER) OF THE THREE-NATION
SHOOTING COMPETITION NOW WINDING UP AT ABERDEEN PROVING
GROUND.

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2. STORY IS MOST LIKELY TO BE CARRIED IN TOMORROW'S
(JANUARY 12) EDITIONS OF DIE WELT, SPRINGER NEWS SERVICES'
PRINCIPAL CLIENT, AS WELL AS OTHER SPRINGER SUBSCRIBERS
IN FRG.

3. BROCKDORFF SAID HE GOT HIS STORY FROM BRUSSELS
SOURCES.

4. THE STORY, READ TO THE PAO BY BROCKDORF OVER THE PHONE, SAYS THE WEST GERMAN GUN CAME OUT THE WINNER OF THE SHOOTING CONTEST BY VIRTUE OF ITS PENETRABILITY, WHICH WAS "CLEARLY SUPERIOR" (EINDEUTIG UEBERLEGEN), AND WHICH, THE STORY SAYS, IS THE DECISIVE CRITERION IN THE COMPETITION.

5. AS FOR ACCURACY, THE GERMAN GUN FARED THE WORST OF THE THREE, THE STORY, AS READ BY BROCKDORF, STATES.

6. THE STORY STATES THAT NO OFFICIAL DECISION HAS YET BEEN MADE AS TO THE WINNER OF THE COMPETITION, BUT THAT THE DECISION IS BOUND TO BE CONTROVERSIAL. IT SAYS A DECISION WILL BE MADE JANUARY 31 AS TO WHICH OF THE THREE GUNS IN THE COMPETITION WILL BE PLACED ON THE AMERICAN XM-1 BATTLE TANK. GLITMAN

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Message Attributes

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